Contact: Sgt. Chris Benavides Date: 5/03/2010 Release No. 10-163

MEDIA RELEASE

SAPD Officer Involved Shooting

A preliminary investigation pertaining to an officer involved shooting reveals the following:

Just after 8:30 pm, officers with the Repeat Offenders Program (ROP) received information that the suspect had been involved in several burglaries throughout the day. ROP officers located the suspect at a motel in the 1100 block of Austin Hwy and set up surveillance. The suspect exited the apartment and entered the suspect vehicle attempting to leave the complex. ROP officers drove up to the suspect and positioned their undercover vehicles both in front and behind the suspect's vehicle in an attempt to ensure the suspect could not drive away. As officers approached the suspect vehicle, the suspect began stepping on the gas pedal revving the engine as he attempted to put the car in gear. The ROP detective made his way to the passenger side of the suspect vehicle. The detective opened the passenger door and identified himself as he ordered the suspect to turn off the car. Fearing that the suspect was going to run over the ROP supervisor who was trapped between a vehicle and the suspect vehicle, the detective fired one shot from his duty weapon and struck the suspect. The suspect died as a result of the shooting.

The shooting team is currently investigating the incident. As per department protocol Detective Gary Mucho, a twelve year veteran, will be placed on administrative duty.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE